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2/26/08

FLOODING

Lafayette

Employment benefits extended for flood victims

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Employment benefits extended for flood victims

STAFF REPORTS

February 26, 2008

An amendment has been made to the original federal disaster declaration that was issued for northern Indiana following the severe storms and flooding that began in January.

Now, workers in 12 counties may be eligible for special Disaster Unemployment Assistance benefits, according to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

Counties included in the Disaster Unemployment Assistance program are Benton, Newton, Starke, Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, Lake, LaPorte, Noble, St. Joseph and Whitley.

To be eligible for assistance, workers or self-employed individuals must be unemployed as a result of a major disaster in a major disaster area.

Unemployment assistance is available to workers if, as a direct result of the disaster, the individual:

- No longer has a job.
- Is unable to reach his or her place of work.
- Was to begin work but does not have a job or is unable to reach the job.
- Has become the primary means of support for the household because the head of household died as a direct result of the disaster.
- Cannot work because of a disaster-related injury.

The deadline for affected workers to file for Disaster Unemployment Assistance benefits in March 22.

Claims may be filed at local WorkOne centers. Locations of the centers are available online at www.in.gov/dwd/WorkOne/regions.html.

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